

CLAIMS:

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1. A method comprising:
 - receiving a cargo identification;
 - retrieving from a database an environment-control parameter as a function of the identified cargo; and
 - regulating a conditioned space of an environment-controlled transport unit based upon the environment-control parameter.
 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising presenting to the user a menu of cargo options.
 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the menu of cargo options includes media representations.
 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the environment-control parameter is at least one of temperature set point, temperature range, time-out-of-range, optimum mode of operation, humidity, lighting conditions, atmospheric conditions and defrosting constraints.
 5. The method of claim 1 further comprising presenting the user the option to set the parameter manually.
 6. An article comprising a computer-readable medium which stores computer-executable instructions for controlling the environment of a conditioned space in an

1 environment-controlled transport unit for transporting cargo, the instructions causing a
2 machine to:

3 receive a cargo identification;

4 retrieve from a database an environment-control parameter as a function of the
5 identified cargo; and

6 regulate a conditioned space of an environment-controlled transport unit based upon
7 the environment-control parameter.

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9 7. The article of claim 6, the instructions further causing a machine to present to the user
10 a menu of cargo options.

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12 8. The article of claim 7, wherein the menu of cargo options includes media
13 representations.

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15 9. The article of claim 6, wherein the environment-control parameter is at least one of
16 temperature set point, temperature range, time-out-of-range, optimum mode of operation,
17 humidity, lighting conditions, atmospheric conditions and defrosting constraints.

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19 10. The article of claim 6, the instructions further causing a machine to present the user
20 the option to set the parameter manually.

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22 11. An environment control system comprising:

23 an environment-adjusting system configured to adjust the environment of a
24 conditioned space;

1 a controller coupled to the environment-adjusting system configured to regulate the
2 operation of the environment-adjusting system;

3 a database communicatively connected to the controller, wherein the database
4 comprises a cargo identification and an environment-control parameter as a function of the
5 cargo identification; and

6 an input device coupled to the controller;

7 wherein the controller is configured upon selection of a cargo identification by way of
8 the input device to retrieve the environment-control parameter as a function of the cargo
9 identification from the database and to regulate the environment-adjusting system based upon
10 the environment-control parameter.

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12 12. The system of claim 11, wherein the input device includes at least one of a keypad, a
13 touch screen, a keyboard, a mouse and a personal computer.

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15 13. The system of claim 11, further comprising an output device.

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17 14. The system of claim 13, wherein the output device includes at least one of a display
18 screen, a touch screen, and a personal computer.

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20 15. The system of claim 14, wherein the output device is configured to display
21 alphanumeric and graphic data.

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23 16. The system of claim 11, further comprising a sensor coupled to the controller.
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1 17. The system of claim 11 further comprising an external communication interface.

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3 18. The system of claim 17, wherein the external communication interface is configured
4 to establish a communication connection by radio frequency signal, infrared signal, satellite
5 link or cellular telephone.

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7 19. The system of claim 11, wherein the database comprises a plurality of cargo
8 identifications and a plurality of environment-control parameters as a function of each cargo
9 identification in the database.

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11 20. The system of claim 11, wherein the environment-adjusting system includes at least
12 one of a refrigeration system, humidifier, lighting system, dehumidifier, atmosphere regulator
13 and venting system.

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15 21. The system of claim 11 further comprising memory coupled to the controller, wherein
16 the database resides in the memory.

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18 22. An environment-controlled transport unit comprising:
19 a container defining a conditioned space; and
20 an environment control system configured to receive a cargo identification;
21 wherein the environment control system is configured regulate the environment of the
22 conditioned space based upon the cargo identification.

1 23. The environment-controlled transport unit of claim 22, wherein the environment
2 control system includes memory.

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4 24. The environment-controlled transport unit of claim 23, wherein the memory includes
5 an environment-control parameter as a function of the cargo identification.

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7 25. The environment-controlled transport unit of claim 24, wherein the environment
8 control system is configured regulate the environment of the conditioned space based upon
9 the environment-control parameter.

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11 26. A computer-readable medium storing data structures comprising:
12 a first set of data structures to store cargo identifiers; and
13 a second set of data structures to store parameters;
14 wherein each cargo identifier is associated with at least one of the parameters.

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16 27. The medium of claim 26, wherein the parameters include environment-control
17 parameters.